

with the University of Missouri Extension Service for several counties from 1937 to 1944. A resident of the Jefferson City area since 1944, he was employed with the Missouri Department of Resources and Development from 1944 to 1947. He was manager of the Missouri Limestone Producers Association from 1947 to 1954. From 1954 until his retirement in 1976, he was executive director of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers.

Paul Doll was also active in the community. He was an elder of the First Presbyterian Church, treasurer of the Presbyterian Synod and president of the Men of the Presbyterian Synod. He was past president of the Jefferson City Rotary Club and a district governor of Rotary International. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho and Tau Beta Pi fraternities. Active in many University of Missouri organizations, Paul Doll was a board member and past officer of the Agricultural Engineering Council and a board member of the Engineering Advisory Council and the Alumni Alliance. A member of the Alumni association, he received its Distinguished Service Award in 1979. He also was a registered lobbyist for MU.

Mr. Doll was an Eagle Scout and merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America; board member and committee chairman of the Jefferson City Engineers Club; board member of the Central Missouri United Way; volunteer for Meals on Wheels; chairman of the Greater Jefferson City Committee; and a registered engineer in Missouri.

Paul Doll is survived by his wife, Mary R. "Meg" Doll; his son, Robert; two daughters, Mary Beth Huser and Anne C. Comfort; and eight grandchildren. I know that this body joins me in expressing sympathy to the family of this great Missourian.

IN MEMORY OF MR. OSCAR CROSS
OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Oscar Cross of Paducah, Kentucky, whose passing on April 20, 1999 at the age of 92 ended his long and productive investment in great causes, high ideals and humanitarian service.

Mr. Cross was not a man of material wealth. Undeterred, he built a legacy of leadership built on the wisdom of one of his favorite adages: "If you don't have money, you have time." He gave unstintingly of his time, his energy and his vision of a better community in which none were left behind.

Mr. Cross was a founder of the Paducah Boys & Girls Club that now bears his name. He was a tireless advocate of young people and helped provide a sheltering hand for generations of boys and girls who found protection, love, guidance and inspiration as the result of his efforts.

In a front-page account of his funeral service, The Paducah Sun observed, "On the day that had been declared Oscar Cross Day by

the city of Paducah to commemorate his legacy, hundreds of mourners turned out to pay their last respects to one of the city's greatest humanitarians. Nearly 500 people gathered at First Baptist Church Sunday afternoon for the funeral of the legendary humanitarian. Both blacks and whites filled the church to celebrate, not mourn the life and contributions Cross made."

Dhomyric Lightfoot, president of the Boys and Girls Club, was quoted as saying, "Having people of different colors, cultures and backgrounds here to celebrate (his life) is a contribution to Mr. Cross. The perceptions that he broke were astronomical."

In a fitting eulogy, Reverend Raynaldo Henderson, pastor of the Washington Street Missionary Baptist Church, used a parable to illustrate Mr. Cross's faith in young people and in God. "Whoever gets the Son, gets it All! Do you want peace? Get the Son! Do you want joy? Get the Son! Whoever gets the Son, gets it all!" he said.

Mr. Speaker, in further tribute to his remarkable life, I place before the House of Representatives and the Nation for inclusion in the Congressional Record a poem favored by Mr. Cross and a letter written to me by Mr. Clarence E. Nunn, Sr., executive director of the Boys and Girls Club.

THE HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD

"HE WAS A FRIEND TO MAN, AND LIVED IN A
HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD."

HOMER

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn,
In the peace of their self-content;
There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart,
In a fellowless firmament;
There are pioneer souls that blaze their
paths, Where highways never ran;
But let me live by the side of the road. And
be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the
road, Where the race of men go by—
The men who are good and the men who are
bad, As good and as bad as I.

I would not sit in the scorner's seat, Or hurl
the cynic's ban;

Let me live in a house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road,
By the side of the highway of life,

The men who press with the ardor of hope,
The men who are faint with the strife.

But I turn not away from their smiles nor
their tears—Both parts of an infinite
plan;

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows
ahead, And mountains of wearisome
height,

That the road passes on through the long
afternoon, And stretches away to the
night.

But still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice,
And weep with the strangers that moan,
Nor live in my house by the side of the road,
Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, Where the race of men go by—

They are good, they are bad, they are weak,
they are strong,

Wise, foolish—so am I.

Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,
Or hurl the cynic's ban?—

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

Sam Walter Foss.

OSCAR CROSS BOYS &
GIRLS CLUB OF PADUCAH,
Paducah, KY, May 17, 1999

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WHITFIELD, I am enclosing a brief history of Oscar Cross, the founder of the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah, who was killed in an automobile accident on Tuesday, April 20, 1999. The Paducah community and untold numbers of men and women across the nation owe a huge debt to Mr. Cross for the countless acts of unconditional love and service to mankind he performed while living.

For several years, Mr. Cross worked as a janitor at the courthouse in Paducah, and the courthouse became the initial meeting place for the newly organized Jr. Legion Boys Club formed by Mr. Cross and a few local young men in 1950. In 1953, the organization united with the Boys Clubs of America. It was the first African-American club and is the second oldest Boys & Girls Club in Kentucky. The dream of operating a safe, drug-free environment for kids became a reality for Mr. Cross after many days and nights of soul-searching, praying and rising above the obstacles of segregation and separatist attitudes.

When he was refused access to a larger building and better facilities for his "boys" he sought other creative ways to obtain his goals. He and several club members cleaned and sold used bricks in order to secure the necessary funds to purchase the current club location on Jackson Street. Each time a door was slammed in his face, he invented "windows" of opportunity until he was able to achieve his mission. His tenacity and perseverance enabled him to see his vision of a facility for the youth of Paducah become a reality and in 1987, the library named in honor of Delbert Shumpert, a talented athlete and former club member, was erected on the site of the current boys & girls address.

Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Cross received innumerable awards, certificates and letters of recognition, far too many to list in this letter. However, a few of his recognized achievements include: The Bronze Keystone Award from the Boys & Girls Club of America for 25 years of service (the first black to receive this award), Kentucky Colonel Award, a Duke of Paducah Award, certificate of merit from the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, certificate of appreciation from the 4-H Club of Paducah Community College, the Lucy Hart Smith-Atwood S. Wilson Award from the Human Relations Committee of the Kentucky Education Association and many, many others. His most recent honor came three days before his death from Kappa Alpha Psi, a community service fraternity, for his humanitarian efforts.

His legacy of "never give up in the face of adversity" is something that will be treasured and remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him for the brief 92 years he spent with us. Until his death he continued to be an active vital member of the club, continuing to look for financial opportunities and ways to develop our young people so that they would realize there are alternatives to the streets. He was and is a remarkable man and an excellent role model.

Sincerely,

CLARENCE L. NUNN, SR.,
Executive Director.